The cost of damage to the Railway property was Rs. 9.06 and Rs. 8.46 crores in 1985-86 and 1984-85 respectively.

(e) Some of the important safety measures being taken to prevent derailments are:—

(i) Programmed rehabilitation of rolling stock, track and other assets.

(ii) Introduction of modern technological aids viz., ultrasonic testing of rails and rolling stock axles, provision of rack circuiting, axle counters, panel and route relay interlocking, etc.

(iii) Patrolling of track to detect rail fractures and adoption of anti-sabotage measures.

(iv) Stringent punitive action against the staff held responsible for derailments.

(v) Formation of high level multi-disciplinary Safety Task Force Teams to conduct detailed inspections on the various Zonal Railways with a view to identifying the unsafe working practices and weaknesses in the system and taking remedial measures.

Unclaimed billets lying at Vishakhapatnam Port

1566. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether 35,000 metric tonnes of imported billets worth rupees ten crores imported by Minerals and Metal Trading Corporation (MMTC) have been lying unclaimed at Visakhapatnam Port;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Visakhapatnam Port Authorities in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Computerised reservation terminals

1567. SHRI F. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to open more computerised reservation terminals during 1986 in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof nd the names of the Stations where these re to be opened; and

(c) the estimated expenditure to be spent on it and by when it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

(c) The total estimated expenditure on computerised reservation system at Delhi

will be Rs. 18 crores. Detailed cost estimafes for Bombay and Calcutta are being prepared.

The work of extension of the passenger reservation at Delhi will be completed by March, 1987. The phase 1 of computerised system at Calcutta and Bombay will be introduced by end of December, 1986.

Payment to chemists by DTC

1568. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI:
SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 299 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 5th November, 1986 and state what are the reasons for which Delhi Chemists have not been paid about Rs. 12 crores claimed by them under the medical reimbursement scheme of the Delhi Transport Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): The exact amount payable against the pending bills of the Chemists can be assessed only after the investigations are completed.

Japanese Encephalitis

1569. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

SHRI M. VINCENT:

SHRI PUTTAPAGA RADHAKRISHNA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 'Japanese Encephalitis' is spreading in certain states in the country taking a heavy toll of life;

(b) if so, which states in the country are affected with the disease along with the number of deaths reported in each of these states so far; and

(c) what measures have been taken by Government to control the epidemic?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) According to the latest information the following States have reported outbreak of Japanese Encephalitis with number of deaths occured during the current year :—

Assam	385
Andhra Pradesh	367
Bihar	11
Karnataka	9
Manipur	5
Tamilnadu	28
Uttar Pradesh	533

(c) The following steps have been taken to contain the disease :—

1 Directorate of National Malaria Eradication Programme is regularly collecting and analysing the incidence reports from various States|Union Territories.

2. All the States/Union Territories have been requested to spray BHC|DDT in an area 2-3 Km. around a case whenever reported besides Malathion fogging|ULV spraying.

3. NIV, Pune, School of Tropical Medicine, Calcutta, All India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health, Calcutta and National Institute of Communicale Diseases, Delhi are involved in the programme for advice diagnosis of cases.